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## The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 226, June 14, 2024

#### Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in red. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a <u>Propagation</u> section, updated daily; and a <u>Contest Calendar</u> of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

The bulletin is available at <a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: https://www.425dxn.org/

425 DX News Google Group: https://groups.google.com/g/425eng

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", http://www.darcdxhf.de

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

Space Weather Prediction Center

Dr. Tony Phillips' SpaceWeather.com, used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the WA7BNM Contest Calendar

#### **DX News**

**5H, TANZANIA.** Chas, NK8O will be QRV as **5H3DX** near Dodoma from June 18th to 30th. Activity will be in his spare time on 30 to 10 meters using CW, FT8, and FT4 both in DXpedition mode. QSL direct to NK8O

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 22 June 13, 2024] (0614-0705)

**5U, NIGER.** Elvira, IV3FSG will be active **5U5K** from Niger on June 6th-20th. She will operate SSB, FT8/FT4 (using MSHV in multi-stream mode), RTTY and maybe some CW on 160-6 meters. Francesco, IKØXBX will be her pilot station. QSL direct to IK2DUW. -[425DXN # 1725 May 25, 2024] (0531-0621)

**8Q, MALDIVES.** Felix, DL6JF will be active holiday style as **8Q7JF** from the Maldives (AS-013) on June 16th-29th. He will operate CW and some FT (F/H) on 30-6 meters. QSL via DM5JBN and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1727 June 8, 2024] (0614-0628)

9M6, EAST MALAYSIA. Team 9M1Z will be active from Tanjung Datu (the western tip of Malaysian Borneo), Sarawak on June 15th-30th. Look for activity on 80-6 meters SSB, CW and FT8. See <a href="https://www.marhazk.com/9m1z/">https://www.marhazk.com/9m1z/</a> for more information. QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog, LoTW, and QRZ Logbook. QSL direct to <a href="https://www.marhazk.com/9m1z/">9W8ZZK</a> or <a href="https://www.marhazk.com/9m1z/">9M8WIN</a> [425DXN # 1727 June 8, 2024] (0614-0705)

**9N, NEPAL.** Watch for Nabin, **9N2NK**, operating from Kathmandu on 20, 15, and 10m (FT8). See his real-time log at: <a href="https://www.nabinpoudel.com.np/ham-radio/qso-logs">https://www.nabinpoudel.com.np/ham-radio/qso-logs</a>. QSL direct via <a href="https://www.nabinpoudel.com.np/ham-radio/qso-logs">9N2NK</a>. -[DXNL # 2408 May 29, 2024] (0531-0621)

**D4, CAPE VERDE.** Harald, DF2WO and Adolf, DG9KAN are QRV as **D44TWO** and **D44KAN**, respectively, from Sao Tiago, IOTA AF-005, until June 22nd. Activity is on all HF bands, and 6 meters, using all bands and modes. This includes being active on Satellite QO-100. QSL D44TWO via MØOXO'S OQRS, and D44KAN direct to DG9KAN.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 21 June 6, 2024] (0607-0621)

**DL, GERMANY.** Special callsign **DM6ØIOTA** will be used by DARC Team SES to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Islands On The Air program. Plans are to be active from all of the German IOTA groups (EU-042, EU-047, EU-057, EU-127, EU-128 and EU-129), but dates of operation are still unknown. QSL via the bureau, or direct to <u>DL2VFR</u>.
-[425DXN # 1727 June 8, 2024] (0607-0628)

**DL**, **GERMANY.** The following special event callsigns will be active from June 14th to July 17th around the European Football Championship: **DL2Ø24E**, **DL2Ø24U**, **DL2Ø24R**, and **DL2Ø24O**. Awards are available: <a href="https://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/dx/sonderdiplome/">https://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/dx/sonderdiplome/</a>. QSL via DARC QSL bureau, <a href="https://www.darc.de/der-club/referate/dx/sonderdiplome/">DL2VFR</a>.

-[DXNL # 2409 June 5, 2024] (0607-0719)

**DL, GERMANY.** The Berlin Airlift was an operation that carried supplies by plane to the Allied sectors of West Berlin over a Russian blockade. For more than a year, hundreds of American, British and French cargo planes ferried provisions to West Berlin's Tempelhof, Gatow and Tegel airfields. Commemorating the 75th anniversary of the end of the Berlin Airlift, three special event stations will be active from May 12th until June 24th: **DLØGWW** for Gatow, **DLØTXL** for Tegel, and **DLØTHF** for Tempelhof. An award will be available: <a href="https://ham-awards.de/index.php/75luft/">https://ham-awards.de/index.php/75luft/</a>. An operating schedule is available here: <a href="https://www.darc.de/der-club/distrikte/l/ortsverbaende/33/75luft/">https://ham-awards.de/index.php/75luft/</a>. An operating schedule is available here: <a href="https://www.darc.de/der-club/distrikte/l/ortsverbaende/33/75luft/">https://www.darc.de/der-club/distrikte/l/ortsverbaende/33/75luft/</a>. Paper QSL cards will not be provided; QSL via LoTW, QRZ Logbook, and the DARC Community Logbook.

-[425DXN # 1724 May 18, 2024] (0517-0628)

**DXCC TOP TWENTY.** Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of June 14, 2024:

```
1. P5
          DPRK (North Korea) 11. 3Y/B
                                        Bouvet Island
2. BS7H
          Scarborough Reef
                             12. ZS8
                                       Prince Edward & Marion Islands
          San Felix Islands 13. KH4
CEØX
                                        Midway Island
                             14. VKØM
4. BV9P
          Pratas Island
                                       Macquarie Island
                             15. PYØS
                                       Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
5. KH7K
          Kure Island
6. KH3
          Johnston Island
                             16. KP5
                                        Desecheo Island
7. FT/G
          Glorioso Island
                             17. VPØS
                                       South Sandwich Islands
8. 3Y/P
          Peter 1 Island
                             18. KH5
                                        Palmyra & Jarvis Islands
9. FT5/X Kerguelen Island
                                        New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
                             19. ZL9
10. YVØ
          Aves Island
                             20. FK/C
                                        Chesterfield Islands
```

For the complete list, see <a href="https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php">https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php</a>
-[KØCF June 14, 2024] (0614-0705)

**EZ, TURKMENISTAN.** David, DL7ZM (OE6NZM) has been active again as **EZ/DL7ZM** from Turkmenistan since June 10th and will remain QRV sporadically until June 16th. He operates CW on 28020 and 50100 kHz. This not a DXpedition, but research and education on propagation ("I have many students around me and need to explain what I am doing"). QSL to David Pommerenke, Institute of Electronics, Inffeldgasse 12, 8010 Graz, Austria.

-[425DXN # 1728 June 15, 2024] (0614-0621)

**F, FRANCE.** Celebrating the Olympic Games Paris 2024, members of Radio Clubs F5KDC and F4KLW will be active as **TM63JO** on **June 16th-23rd**, July 26th-28th and August 8th-11th. eQSL via <a href="https://www.oly24.fr/awardform.html">https://www.oly24.fr/awardform.html</a>; paper cards will not be issued.

-[425DXN # 1727 June 8, 2024] (0614-0628)

**F, FRANCE.** Vitaly, F4WBU will be active as **TM17CEF** on June 14th-28th, and as **TM24F** from June 29th to July 14th. The special callsigns are for the 17th edition of the UEFA European Football Championship, the quadrennial international men's football (soccer) championship of Europe to be held in Germany. QSL via <u>F4WBU</u> and eQSL.
-[425DXN # 1728 June 15, 2024] (0614-0719)

**F, FRANCE.** For the 72nd year the Association des Radioamateurs de la Sarthe (F6KFI) will operate special event station **TM24H** for the 24 Hours of Le Mans on June 2nd-16th, with activity on various bands and modes. QSL via F6KFI.

-[425DXN # 1725 May 25, 2024] (0531-0621)

**F, FRANCE.** Team **TM8ØDD** will be active on **June 1st-16th** to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy (June 6, 1944). They will operate SSB, CW and digital modes on all bands. QSL via <u>F5JYD</u>.

-[425DXN # 1723 May 11, 2024] (0531-0621)

**F, FRANCE.** Special event station **TM85JO** operates around the Olympic Torch stages from May 8th to 12th, June 8th to 9th, June 21st to 23rd, July 12th to 14th, and on July 26th. QSL via bureau. -[DXNL # 2405 May 8, 2024] (0510-0726)

**FO, FRENCH POLYNESIA.** Dave, WJ2O is QRV as **FO/WJ2O** from Tahiti (OC-046) until June 15th. QSL via N2ZN.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 22 June 13, 2024] (0614-0621)

FS, SAINT MARTIN. John, K9EL, operates holiday-style until June 19th as FS/K9EL from Saint Martin (NA-105). QRV on HF with a focus on 6m. QSL via <u>ClubLog's OQRS</u> (preferred), LoTW, or via <u>K9EL</u>. -[DXNL # 2409 June 5, 2024] (0607-0621)

FT/G, GLORIOSO IS. Marek, FH4VVK will be active as FT4GL from Grande Glorieuse, Glorioso Islands (AF-011) from May 24th to June 19th. The most recent activity from the islands dates back to 2009 (FT5GA), and the Glorieuses are currently ranked 8th on ClubLog's DXCC Most Wanted List. This one-man operation will be carried out in parallel with Marek's professional activities. He hopes to be QRV daily with two stations at the same time - one on FT8 and one on SSB or RTTY (he lacks sufficient knowledge of CW to manage a huge pile-up). There will be no activity on 6 meters, EME, or via satellite. QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog on a daily basis; access to the Internet will be available for two hours a day, from 1800 to 2000 local time. Bookmark <a href="https://ft4gl.blogspot.com/">https://ft4gl.blogspot.com/</a> and <a href="https://www.facebook.com/61557262192352">https://www.facebook.com/61557262192352</a> for more information and updates. full LoTW upload will follow six months after the end of the DXpedition. QSL via <a href="#F4FTV">F4FTV</a>.

-[425DXN # 1716 March 23, 2024] (0524-0621)

**FY, FRENCH GUIANA.** Operators at club station FY5KE are QRV as **T06ØCSG** each weekend in April, May, and June to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Guiana Space Centre. See detailed information at <u>T06ØCSG</u>. QSL direct to <u>FY5KE</u>.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 14 April 4, 2024] (0405-0628)

**G, ENGLAND.** Commemorating the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy (June 6, 1944), members of the Newbury and District Amateur Radio Society will be active as **GB8ØDDAY** from June 1st to 28th, with a special focus of activity on June 6th. QSL via eQSL, or via MØOXO'S OQRS. -[425DXN # 1725 May 25, 2024] (0531-0628)

**G, ENGLAND.** Joining Guglielmo Marconi's 150th anniversary celebrations, the Cornish Radio Amateur Club (GX4CRC) will be active as **GB15ØGM** from April 27th until July 27th. This activity participates in the "Marconi 150 Award", organized by the Associazione Radioamatori Italiani (ARI) and the Coordinamento Stazioni Marconiane Italiane (CSMI) under the patronage of the Guglielmo Marconi

Foundation. See IR2GMCL below. QSL via eQSL. -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0726)

**GI, NORTHERN IRELAND.** Commemorating the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings (June 6, 1944), the Rushyhill Radio Society (MNØUGP) will be active as **GB8DDY** from June 1st to 28th. A certificate will be available, but QSL cards will not be provided - see <a href="https://www.qrz.com/db/GB8DDY">https://www.qrz.com/db/GB8DDY</a> for information.

-[425DXN # 1724 May 18, 2024] (0531-0628)

**GJ, JERSEY.** Michael, DF8AN will be QRV as **MJ/DF8AN** from June 19th to 25th. Activity will be on 80 to 6 meters using various digital modes and some CW. QSL to <u>DF8AN</u>.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 22 June 13, 2024] (0614-0628)

**GM, SCOTLAND.** Look for **GB9DAT** to be active on **June 1st-28th** on a variety of digital modes (including FT8, FT4, PSK, and RTTY, among others). This is a "special event station dedicated to advancing and promoting digital modes in amateur radio". QSL via <u>ClubLog's OQRS</u>, or direct to <u>MMØDFV</u>.

-[425DXN # 1725 May 25, 2024] (0531-0628)

**HP, PANAMA.** The callsign **3E7D** will be aired from the national parks in the Darien province from June 1, 2024 until June 1, 2025. QSL via <u>HP1AVS</u>. -[DXNL # 2410 June 12, 2024] (0614-0705)

I, ITALY. Francesco, IK6QON will be active as ID9/IK6QON from Salina Island (EU-017) on June 15th-22nd. QSL via IK6QON.

-[425DXN # 1727 June 8, 2024] (0614-0621)

I, ITALY. Domenico, IK1MNF will be active again as IK1MNF/IA5 from Isola d'Elba (EU-028) from early June through the end of September. He will operate SSB on 20-6 meters. QSO will be uploaded to ClubLog and LoTW; QSL via IK1MNF.

-[425DXN # 1726 June 1, 2024] (0531-0621)

I, ITALY. Celebrating Pesaro Capitale Italiana della Cultura (Italian Capital of Culture) 2024, members of ARI Pesaro and ARI Fano will be active as II6CIC from June 1st to August 29th. QSL via IQ6PS. -[425DXN # 1725 May 25, 2024] (0531-0830)

I, ITALY. Members of ARI Colli Albani (IQØHV) will be active as IIØLOR from May 31st to June 30th to mark the 80th anniversary of the Liberation of Rome (June 4, 1944). A certificate will be available, see <a href="https://www.qrz.com/db/IIOLOR">https://www.qrz.com/db/IIOLOR</a> for information. QSL via IØKNQ.

-[425DXN # 1725 May 25, 2024] (0531-0705)

I, ITALY. Commemorating the 150th anniversary of the birth of Guglielmo Marconi, members of ARI's Board of Directors will be active as IR2GMCL from April 28th to July 27th during the "Marconi 150 Award". See <a href="https://www.qrz.com/db/IR2GMCL">https://www.qrz.com/db/IR2GMCL</a> for the rules. Paper QSL cards will not be provided; electronic QSLs may be downloaded from the HamAward platform.

-[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0426-0726)

I, ITALY. Members of ARI Venezia (IQ3VE) will be active as IR3POLO from April 1st to June 30th. The special callsign commemorates the 700th anniversary since the death of Marco Polo, the Venetian merchant and explorer who travelled through Asia along the Silk Road (1271-1295). All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau.

-[425DXN # 1716 March 23, 2024] (0329-0628)

**JA, JAPAN.** Kenji, JA4GXS will be active as **JA4GXS/1** from Izu Oshima (AS-008) on **June 1st-3rd**. He will operate CW, SSB and FT8/FT4 on 40, 30, 20 and 6 meters. QSL via <u>JA4GXS</u>. -[425DXN # 1723 May 11, 2024] (0510-0531)

JA, JAPAN. Take, JI3DST will be active again from the Miyako Islands (AS-079) from April 24th to June 26th. Callsigns to be used are JS6RRR, JS6RRR/6, JI3DST/6, JJ5RBH/6 and JR8YLY/6 on SSB and CW, as well as JS6RRR/p, JI3DST/p, JJ5RBH/p and JR8YLY/p on FT8/FT4. QSOs will be

made available for ClubLog and LoTW Matching on the IOTA website. -[425DXN # 1720 April 20, 2024] (0419-0628)

**JD1/M, MINAMI TORISHIMA.** Take, JG8NQJ plans to be QRV as **JG8NQJ/JD1** beginning around June 20th, and here for about three months while working at the weather station. Activity will be in his limited spare time on the HF bands using CW and some FT8. QSL direct to <u>JA8CJY</u>.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 22 June 13, 2024] (0614-0705)

**K, UNITED STATES.** Andy, AA5JF plans to combine a business trip with some IOTA activations. His tentative schedule is as follows:

NA-139 Assateague Island, June 7th (1900 UTC) to June 8th (1800 UTC)

NA-140 Middle Hooper Island, June 8th (1900 UTC) to June 10th (0100 UTC)

NA-136 Outer Thimble Island, June 15th (1400-2000 UTC)

NA-148 Georges Island, June 16th (1500-1830 UTC)

NA-046 Martha's Vineyard, June 19th (1400-2100 UTC)

He will be signing **AA5JF** (neither /m nor /p) from all the islands, and will operate mainly CW, with some SSB and FT8 (not from NA-136 and NA-148). All QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog and LoTW, and IOTA matching will be available as soon as possible. QSL direct to <u>AA5JF</u>. -[425DXN # 1727 June 8, 2024] (0607-0621)

**S2, BANGLADESH.** Karl, GØSKW, is operating now as **S21ZI** from Bangladesh until June 18th. QRV on 40-10 meters, CW and FT8 only. He is using ClubLog Livestream where possible. His first small log is now available on MØOXO OQRS.

-[Ohio/Penn DX Bulletin June 11, 2024] (0611-0621)

SP, POLAND. Special callsigns SP9ØØCPZ, 3Z1OTTON, HF1OTTON, SN1OTTON, SO1OTTON, SP1OTTON and SQ1OTTON will be active from June 3rd to July 2nd to mark the 900th anniversary of the first mission to Pomerania undertaken by Otto, bishop of Bamberg. A certificate will be available, see <a href="https://sp1kze.pzk.org.pl/900.html#en">https://sp1kze.pzk.org.pl/900.html#en</a> for information.

-[425DXN # 1726 June 1, 2024] (0531-0705)

**SP, POLAND.** Celebrating the 65th anniversary of the SP DX Club, special callsigns **SP65S**, **SO65P**, **SN65D**, **HF65X** and **3Z65C** will be active on <u>June 1st-16th</u>. A certificate will be available; complete information can be found on <a href="https://logsp.pzk.org.pl/a/spdxc/index.php">https://logsp.pzk.org.pl/a/spdxc/index.php</a>. -[425DXN # 1724 May 18, 2024] (0531-0621)

**SV, GREECE.** lakovos, **SV2RSG/A**, has been observed lately operating between 14007 and 14009 kHz between 1400z and 2000z, most likely with a CW decoder. QSL via <u>SV1GRM</u>. -[DXNL # 2409 June 5, 2024] (0607-0621)

**SV9, CRETE.** Erwin, DK5EW (https://dk5ew.com/) will be active as **SV8/DK5EW** from Crete Island (EU-015) from May 30th to June 20th. He will be QRV on 6 and 4 meters only from grid locators KM35 (May 30th - June 5th) and KM15 (June 8th-20th). QSL via LoTW, eQSL, or direct to <u>DK5EW</u>. -[425DXN # 1725 May 25, 2024] (0524-0621)

**TF, ICELAND.** Operator AE5X is QRV as **TF/AE5X until June 18th**. Activity is holiday style on 20 to 10 meters using only CW with low power. QSL via operator's instructions.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 22 June 13, 2024] (0614-0621)

**TR, GABON.** Roland, F8EN will be active again as **TR8CR** from Gabon from May 15th until the end of June (maybe longer). He will operate CW only and will celebrate his 96th birthday while there. Log search on <a href="http://LesNouvellesDX.fr/voirlogs.php">http://LesNouvellesDX.fr/voirlogs.php</a>. QSL via <a href="F6AJA">F6AJA</a>. -[425DXN # 1723 May 11, 2024] (0510-0628)

VK9L, LORD HOWE I. Yuris, YL2GM will be active as VK9LA from Lord Howe Island (OC-004) on June 14th-24th. He will operate CW, SSB and FT8 on 160-10 meters. Updates will be posted to <a href="https://lral.lv/vk9la/index.html">https://lral.lv/vk9la/index.html</a>. After Lord Howe, Yuris is expected to be QRV as K8K from American Samoa for another week from June 26th to July 9th. The Northern California DX Foundation has granted its financial support to Yuris ("one of the most prolific DXpeditioners today"), as "wherever he goes with a radio, he can be counted upon to create quite a commotion on the bands". Full LoTW

upload six months after the end of the DXpedition. QSL via <u>ClubLog's OQRS</u> (preferred), or via <u>YL2GN</u>.

-[425DXN # 1726 June 1, 2024] (0614-0628)

**VP2V, BRITISH VIRGIN IS.** Dave, W9DR will be QRV as **VP2V/W9DR** from Anegada (NA-023) from June 19th to 25th. Activity is on 6 meters only from Grid Square FK78tr using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL direct to W9DR.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 22 June 13, 2024] (0614-0628)

**VU, INDIA.** A number of special event stations will be active from Kargil, in the Indian Himalayan Region, to celebrate the 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas (Kargil Victory Day):

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May 26th-30th AT25KVG QSL via VU2IRD May 30th-June 3rd AU25KVD QSL via VU2XFD June 3rd-7th AT25KVE QSL via VU2URC June 10th-14th AT25KAR QSL via VU2FI June 25th-30th AT25KVF QSL via the bureau
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-[425DXN # 1725 May 25, 2024] (0524-0629)

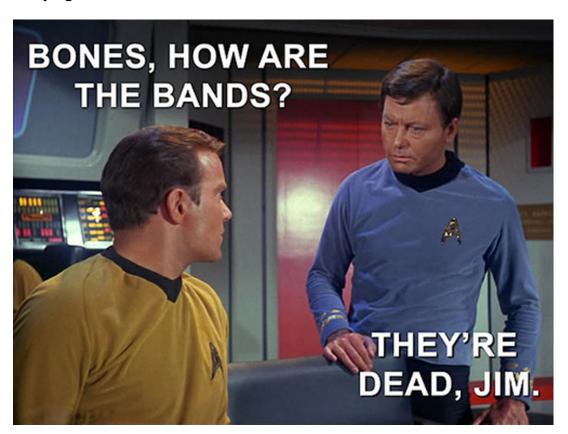
**VU, INDIA.** Jose, VU2JOS, operates around the World Communications Day with the callsign **AU5J** until June 30th. QSL via <u>VU2JOS</u>.

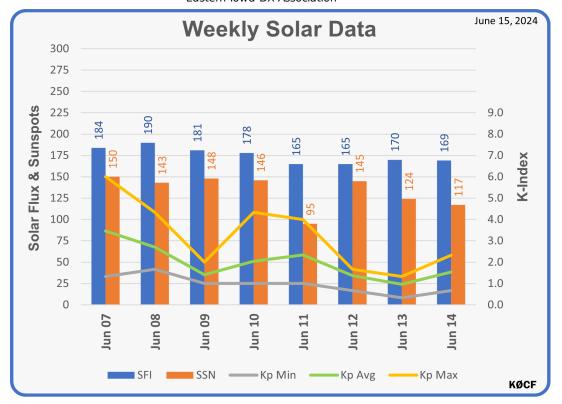
-[DXNL # 2407 May 22, 2024] (0524-0628)

**Z3, NORTH MACEDONIA.** Vlado, ZS6MG is QRV as **Z3/ZS6MG until June 16**. Activity is holiday style on 60 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes, including some possible POTA activations. QSL via <u>N3CZ</u>.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 21 June 6, 2024] (0607-0621)

## Propagation (Updated daily)





The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** *You may click* here or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

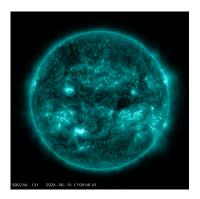
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wavelength of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click here or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



### **Propagation Summary**

For the 8 day period from Friday, June 7th through yesterday, June 14th.

The average solar flux was 174, down 14 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 190 on Saturday, June 8th, followed by a low of 165 on June 12th.

The average sunspot count was 131, down by 55 from last week, peaking at 150 on Friday, June 7th followed by a weekly low of 95 on June 11th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 3.2 with a maximum of 6.0 on Friday, June 7th, resulting in moderate geomagnetic storm conditions. Yesterday's K-index maximum was 2.3, producing generally quiet geomagnetic conditions.

Solar flare activity since June 8th has been very high with 19 major flares, the largest of which was a major X 1.5 event on Monday, June 10th.

## **Propagation Data**

Major solar flares, Saturday, June 8th through 1258 UTC, June 15th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Jun 15	0626	M 1.3
2	Jun 14	0432	M 2.4
3	Jun 13	1645	M 3.2
4	Jun 12	2246	M 1.2
5	Jun 10	1840	M 9.5
6	Jun 10	1329	M 1.3
7	Jun 10	1108	X 1.5
8	Jun 10	1058	M 5.3
9	Jun 10	0609	M 3.3
10	Jun 09	2017	M 1.0
11	Jun 09	0819	M 1.2
12	Jun 09	0701	M 1.6
13	Jun 08	2102	M 1.0
14	Jun 08	0858	M 1.2
15	Jun 08	0844	M 1.2
16	Jun 08	0528	M 1.5
17	Jun 08	0149	M 9.7
18	Jun 08	0051	M 3.3
19	Jun 08	0028	M 1.8

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: GOES-X-Ray-Flux)

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Jun 15	40%	5%	170
Jun 16	40%	5%	175
Jun 17	40%	5%	175

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on June 10, 2024).

Date	Flux	Кр	
Jun 15	155	2	

Date	Flux	Кр	
Jun 19	185	3	

Flux	Кр	
195	3	

Jun 16	155	2
Jun 17	165	2
Jun 18	175	2

Jun 20	185	3
Jun 21	185	2
Jun 22	190	3

Jun 24	200	2	
Jun 25	200	2	
Jun 26	205	2	

#### **Unexpected CME Impact**

A CME hit Earth's magnetic field today, June 15th (1157 UT). The unexpected impact sparked a minor G1-class geomagnetic storm, which could wax and wane for the rest of the day. (Copyright © SpaceWeather.com June 15, 2024. Republished by permission.)

#### **A Potentially Dangerous Sunspot**

Only a few days ago, sunspot AR3712 didn't exist. Now it's 8 times wider than Earth and growing fast:



Magnetograms of the sunspot reveal a mixed-polarity magnetic field with north (+) and south (-) poles bumping together. Magnetic reconnection could soon cause an X-class solar flare. Any such eruption this weekend will be geoeffective as the sunspot is turning to directly face Earth. (Copyright © SpaceWeather.com June 15, 2024. Republished by permission.)

### **Highs for Cycle 25**

Solar Flux: 234 on January 15, 2023. Sunspots: 283 on April 21, 2024.

#### **Popular Propagation web sites**

https://prop.kc2g.com/ (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/ https://www.spaceweather.com/ https://www.solarham.com/ https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/

#### A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong

geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

# **Contest Calendar**

# **Weekly Contests**

Contest	Start U	ГС	End	Web Site	
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	Rules	
	Monday	1300Z	1400Z		
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	Rules	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z		
	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z		
CMone Test (CMT)	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	Dulos	
CWops Test (CWT)	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	Rules	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z		
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	Rules	
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	Rules	

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

### **Full Calendar**

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Jun 15	1500Z	Jun 16	1500Z	Rules
West Virginia QSO Party	Jun 15	1600Z	Jun 16	0400Z	Rules
ARRL Kids Day	Jun 15	1800Z	Jun 15	2359Z	Rules
His Maj. King of Spain Contest, SSB	Jun 22	1200Z	Jun 23	1200Z	Rules
Ukrainian DX DIGI Contest	Jun 22	1200Z	Jun 23	1200Z	Rules
ARRL Field Day	Jun 22	1800Z	Jun 23	2100Z	Rules
RAC Canada Day Contest	Jul 1	0000Z	Jul 1	2359Z	Rules
IARU HF World Championship	Jul 13	1200Z	Jul 14	1200Z	Rules
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	Jul 20	1800Z	Jul 21	2100Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, RTTY	Jul 20	1800Z	Jul 21	0559Z	Rules
RSGB IOTA Contest	Jul 27	1200Z	Jul 28	1200Z	Rules
Alabama QSO Party	Jul 27	1500Z	Jul 28	0300Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Summer Contest, SSB	Aug 3	0001Z	Aug 4	2359Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, CW	Aug 3	1800Z	Aug 4	0600Z	Rules

WAE DX Contest, CW	Aug 10	0000Z	Aug 11	2359Z	Rules
Maryland-DC QSO Party	Aug 10	1400Z	Aug 11	0400Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, SSB	Aug 17	1800Z	Aug 18	0600Z	Rules
ARRL Rookie Roundup, RTTY	Aug 18	1800Z	Aug 18	2359Z	Rules
Hawaii QSO Party	Aug 24	0400Z	Aug 26	0400Z	Rules
World Wide Digi DX Contest	Aug 24	1200Z	Aug 25	1200Z	Rules
YO DX HF Contest	Aug 24	1200Z	Aug 25	1200Z	Rules
Kansas QSO Party	Aug 24	1400Z	Aug 25	2000Z	Rules
Ohio QSO Party	Aug 24	1600Z	Aug 25	0400Z	Rules
UK/EI DX Contest, SSB	Aug 31	1200Z	Sep 1	1200Z	Rules
Tennessee QSO Party	Sep 1	1700Z	Sep 2	0300Z	Rules
CWOps CW Open	Sep 7	0000Z	Sep 7	2359Z	Rules
North American Sprint, CW	Sep 8	0000Z	Sep 8	0400Z	Rules

<sup>-[</sup>Contest data courtesy of the WA7BNM Contest Calendar ]

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